

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 502

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS CIUDAD JUAREZ 0189

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS FROM AMBASSADOR JOVA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, APER, CGEN, MX

SUBJECT: ELEVATION OF CONSULAR OFFICE AT CIUDAD JUAREZ

1. IN A CEREMONY HELD TODAY AT 12 NOON, I HAVE FORMALLY ELEVATED OUR CONSULAR OFFICE AT CIUDAD JUAREZ FROM CONSULATE TO CONSULATE GENERAL. TO CONSUL GENERAL GOODWIN SHAPIRO I HAVE PRESENTED A NEW CONSULAR FLAG AND COPIES OF THE NOTES BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES WHICH BROUGHT ABOUT THIS CHANGE IN STATUS.
2. BEFORE A DISTINGUISHED GATHERING OF 200 FEDERAL, STATE AND CITY OFFICIALS AND CIVIC LEADERS FROM BOTH EL PASO AND CIUDAD JUAREZ, I EXPRESSED THE GREAT PLEASURE OUR GOVERNMENT TAKES IN ELEVATING OUR CONSULAR REPRESENTATION TO REFLECT THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS INTERNATIONAL GATEWAY IN FOSTERING OUR GOOD NEIGHBOR RELATIONSHIP AND IN ADVANCING OUR RESPECTIVE NATIONAL INTERESTS.
3. IT WAS MY GREAT PLEASURE TO SHARE THIS OCCASION WITH LICENCIADO MANUEL E. RUSSEK, REPRESENTING THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF CHIHUAHUA, MANUEL BERNARDO AGUIRRE; THE PRESIDENTE MUNICIPAL OF CIUDAD JUAREZ DR. RAUL H. LEZAMA; THE MAYOR OF EL PASO DONALD HENDERSON; THE MEXICAN CONSUL

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GENERAL IN EL PASO LUIS ORCI; AND OUR OWN DISTINGUISHED

CONSUL GENERAL IN CIUDAD JUAREZ, GOODWIN SHAPIRO.

4. THE ELEVATION OF OUR CONSULAR OFFICE HAS EVOKED ENORMOUS INTEREST THROUGHOUT THIS BURGEONING BORDER METROPOLITAN AREA. I AM CONFIDENT THAT THIS INTENATIONAL EVENT WILL IN THE YEARS AHEAD CONTRIBUTE IMPORTANTLY TO THE CREATION OF AN ENVIRONMENT WHICH WILL ASSIST US IN THE ACHIEVEMENT OF OUR POLITICAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL GOALS IN MEXICO.

5. IN GRANTING GOM'S CONCURRENCE, FOREIGN SECRETARY RABASA NOTED THAT THIS STEP MARKS A TURN AROUND IN THE TREND OF MANY YEARS TO SHRINK IN SIZE AND STATUS OUR CONSULAR REPRESENTATION IN MEXICO. CLEARLY HE FEELS THAT THE ELEVATION OF OUR OFFICE IN CIUDAD JUAREZ IS SYMBOLIC OF THE GREAT IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO OUR SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR CLOSEST SOUTHERN NEIGHBOR.
SHAPIRO

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